



FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board

Central Phoenix Regional Partnership Council

Council Members in Attendance

Judi Gottschalk, Theresa Gonzales- (by phone), Joyce Millard Hoie, Giff Loda, Marilee Dal Pra, Marsha Porter, Susan Wilkins, and Dr. Randal Christensen

Council Members Absent

Ginger Ward, Juman Abujbara and Wesley Relf

First Things First Staff in Attendance

Michelle Katona, Assistant Director for Regional Councils
Tracey Craig, Regional Manager
Tony Zabicki, Financial Analyst
Brenda Tomlin, Regional Coordinator
Aisha Muhammad, First Things First Administrative Services
Ana Garcia, First Things First Administrative Services

Guest in Attendance

Amanda Keylor, Manager Maricopa County Department of Public Health
John Cregg, Community Impact Manager, Valley of the Sun United Way
Michele Joy, Shelter Director for Crisis Nursery
Kristin Andrew, FACES Director for Crisis Nursery
Gayle Malone, Southwest Human Development Healthy Families Supervisor for team located at Crisis Nursery

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the First Things First – Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board, Central Phoenix Regional Partnership Council was held on January 27, 2010 at the Virginia Piper Charitable Trust, 1202 East Missouri Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85014. Meeting called to order by Regional Partnership Chair Judi Gottschalk at approximately 9:08 a.m. Brief welcome to everyone by Regional Partnership Chair Gottschalk. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

Consent Agenda

Council Member Porter moved to adopt the consent agenda, seconded by Member Wilkins. Motion was approved.

Call to the Public

None

Grantee Presentations

Injury Prevention

Amanda Keylor, Manager Maricopa County Department of Public Health representative gave a presentation regarding Injury Prevention focusing on car seat education. Ms. Keylor indicated that the main goal of the program is educating parents and childcare agencies by providing classes in the proper use of car seats. Ms. Keylor explained that the classes are broken into two parts:

- A. Train-the-trainer approach, focusing on child passenger safety technician classes.
- B. Car seat education classes.

Ms. Keylor, stated that they have 9 Parent education classes and out of the 9 classes 7 are from Head Start. She added that they are educating 157 caregivers, distributing 116 car seats and 3 CPST trainings have been delivered with 4 classes currently in progress. Ms. Keylor indicated that the challenges they are facing are in recruiting child care providers due to:

- A. The length of the CPST training classes
- B. Their loss of income due to the economic crisis and DEC child care subsidy waiting list
- C. Their concern about the increase in DHS licensing fees
- D. Their overall availability
- E. Space/location

Ms. Keylor, stated that they are overcoming these challenges by splitting the classes into two weeks, including some weekends during the day and introducing a stipend pilot.

Literacy

John Cregg, Community Impact Manager, Valley of the Sun United Way representative gave a presentation regarding Literacy. Mr. Cregg indicated that they have 3000 School Readiness Kits for families with children ages 3-5 that will be distributed in late February. Mr. Cregg stated that parents will be given a survey with the kit and in 2 months a post survey will be given with questions to evaluate the progress of the child. Mr. Cregg explained that the School Readiness Kits will be tracked by having agencies sign an agreement that the kits will be handed out at events or homes with zip codes within the Central Phoenix Region. He added that the Valley of the Sun United Way is partnering with the Phoenix Public Library and New Directions Institute to provide story time activities and brain development workshops for families with children, ages birth to five.

Families in Crisis

Michele Joy, Shelter Director for Crisis Nursery representative gave a presentation regarding Families in Crisis. Ms. Joy indicated that Family Respite Services offers short-term overnight and day services to children ages birth to age 10 of families experiencing an emergency or crisis. The focus of the program is:

- A. Nutrition
- B. Nurturance, consistency and a stimulating daily routine
- C. Developmentally appropriate children's programming
- D. Advocacy, resources, and referrals to help resolve emergencies or crisis

Ms. Joy stated that they have a fulltime Pediatric Nurse Practitioner who provides updated immunizations, physicals and dental referrals for children. She also explained in detail the demographics of the Central Phoenix Region and the number of children and families the program is servicing. Ms. Joy explained that they have an additional building with the capacity to expand but they need funding to hire more staff. The Regional Council requested that the grantee provide information on the cost to expand the program, capacity of the building to service and the waiting list. The Council would also like for Tony Zabicki, First Things First Financial Analyst to provide information on emergency scholarships at the next meeting Regional Council Meeting.

Member Wilkins requested that Families in Crisis be added as an agenda item for the next council meeting.

Regional Coordinator Update

Tracey Craig, Regional Manager gave an update on:

- A. Program Committee Meeting: The meeting addressed the funding plan with the highlight being a request from a Council member who asked that when members are speaking with the media or public figure that they share information explaining that each Council has created a strategic plan over several years that addresses how to handle rollover money making sure it gets out to the public.
- B. System Building: Nadine Basha, State Board Representative, created a state task force to address systems building. Invitations have been sent out inviting Council Members to participate. Four Council members from the Central Phoenix Region have been asked to participate on the task force Member Ward, Member Wilkins, Member Dal Pra and Member Millard Hoie.
- C. Executive Director Start Date: Rhian Allvin will be taking over as the Executive Director of First Things First on February 16' 2010. Council Members were asked to share information with anyone who would be interested in applying for an opening as Deputy Director of First Things First. Elliot Hibbs retirement party will be held on Friday, January 12, 2010 from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. in the First Things First board room.

- D. Communication Banner: Images for Central Phoenix Region banner were chosen to reflect the Council's intention in their Funding Plans. The banners will be received in February and can be used for meeting and events.
- E. Legislative Calls: The Legislative calls are weekly calls that began on Friday, January 15, 2010 for the Regional Partnership Council Members.
- F. Needs and Assets: The Central Phoenix Regional Council jointly selected a vendor with North Phoenix, South Phoenix and the Maricopa's Regional Council, voting last month to select MGT as a vendor. The purchase order was issued to MGT late last week and the vendor has 10 days before the first meetings are set. Ms. Craig stated that a meeting was being held with the Maricopa's to address any questions or concerns Regional Council Members may have. Members of the Regional Council requested that before the next Council Meeting a process be put into place with input from all the Regional Council Members to have data collected, tracked and share from the vendor making sure all of the Council Members needs and concerns are met. Chair Gottschalk also requested a data notebook be put together for each Council Member. Council Members expressed concern regarding the chosen Needs and Assets vendor being able to ascertain the depth of analysis of the data that the Council is seeking. Ms. Katona suggested that the data that First Things First has been gathering be turned over to the vendor, as a starting point for the consultants to use for the Needs and Assets report. Council Members expressed additional concern regarding the time line and how the data collected will have relevance to the Central Phoenix Region. All Council Members expressed a desire to meet with the vendor. Council Members requested that the First Things First data that is available be presented to the Regional Council at the next RPC meeting. The Council also requested a data book for all the Council Members be provided..
- G. 2010 National Smart Start Conference: The Smart Start Conference will be held February 18, 2010 online from 11:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. The presentation will be from Vision to Reality: Essential Elements of State Early Childhood Systems. The focus is: Data, Quality Measures, Family Engagement, and Professional Development.

Child Care Study

Michelle Katona, Assistant Director for Regional Councils, explained that several Regional Councils have allocated money for a child care study that is being conducted by the University Consortium. The focus of this study is to look at the needs and capacity issues of families that want child care and aren't able to access child care. Ms. Katona stated she will arrange a meeting between Member Wilkins and Amy Kemp, First Things First Assistant Director, Program Evaluation so Member Wilkins can address any issues or concerns she may have.

Member Christensen requested to have the Child Care Study added as an agenda item for the next council meeting.

Chair Update

Chair Judi Gottschalk gave an update on:

- A. Council Chair Meeting: The next leadership forum with region council chairs and vice chairs is scheduled for Thursday, February 4, 2010 at the Phoenix Marriott Mesa, 200 North Centennial Way, Mesa, Arizona 85201 from 10:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

Strategy Updates

Tracey Craig, Regional Manager gave an update on:

- A. Food Boxes: Member Porter disclosed a potential conflict regarding the following Strategy and recused. Ms. Craig stated that she spoke with The Association of Food Banks in reference to their capacity in staffing and reporting data when distributing food boxes to families within the Central Phoenix Region. The Association of Food Banks indicated that they look to their partners Desert Mission and St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance who are located within the Central Phoenix zip codes to distribute food boxes. Ms. Craig indicated that according to her data St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance has 100 drop-in locations and they serviced 11,000 families with children ages 0-5 in 2009.

Member Wilkins moved to allocate an additional \$250,000 to the 2010 Funding Plan for St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance, seconded by Council Member Christensen. Motion was approved. Member Porter abstained.

- B. Health Coordination: Ms. Craig stated she is working with Member Dal Pra to make sure the scopes of work match the intent of the Regional Council and to have February 1, 2010 as the target date to release this strategy.
- C. Health- E Application System Update: Ms. Craig stated she is working with Member Dal Pra to make sure the scope of work matches the intent of the Regional Council and to have February 1, 2010 as the target date to release this strategy.
- D. Physician Training: Ms. Craig is also working with Member Dal Pra to make sure the scope of work matches the intent of the Regional Council and to have February 1, 2010 as the target date to release this strategy.

- E. Inclusion RFGA: Ms. Katona stated that after the meeting she would be doing follow-up with Member Millard Hoie to make sure the intent of the strategy meets with the Regional Council needs. Member Millard Hoie indicated that Member Wilkins and she are working with Ms. Tomlin, First Things First Regional Coordinator regarding the intent and development of the RFGA. Ms. Craig stated that at the January 26, 2010 First Things First Board Meeting a suggestion was made that the Regional Council work in partnership with the Office of Children with Special Needs.

Member Loda left the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

2011 Funding Plan Presentation

Ms. Craig indicated that all of 19 Funding Plans were approved on January 26, 2010 by the First Things First Board Meeting. The approvals included Central Phoenix Funding Plan. Member Dal Pra stated that the Board Meeting was very happy with tones of support. She expressed her appreciation to First Things First staff for all their help in providing the information needed for the meeting. Ms. Katona gave a brief report on the conversations that took place with the First Things First Board regarding the FY2011 Funding Plan.

Council Member Wilkins moved to allocate an additional \$1 million for a total of \$4 million for Child Care Scholarships. Motion died for a lack of second.

Protocol

Ms. Craig gave a brief explanation of the Open Meeting Laws' definitions.

Regional Council Vacancies

Brief discussion regarding the renewal process for those Council Members that have a 2 year term.

Next Meeting

February 24, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at the Virginia Piper Charitable Trust, 1202 East Missouri Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85014.

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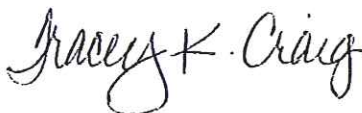
There being no further business, Member Porter moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 11:36 a.m., seconded by Member Dr. Christensen. Motion was approved.

SUBMITTED BY:



Aisha Muhammad, Administrative Assistant

Approved:



Tracey Craig, Regional Manager

Council Approval:



Judi Gottschalk, Chairperson
Central Phoenix Regional Partnership Council